



# United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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Working within the Carriageway below the East Front center steps, a worker sets a concrete masonry block unit around a portion of the original East Front structure built between 1958 and 1962. The East Front of the Capitol was extended during that time to add 100,000 square feet to the Capitol. The central portion of that extension will serve as the primary transition zone between the Capitol and the CVC.

## **This Week – Ongoing Work – 12/05/05 through 12/09/05**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza:**

- Workers continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, erect masonry block work and metal stud walls, place concrete, install finish stone, and apply plaster to interior spaces.
- Stone crews will continue installing stone inside the Great Hall on the columns and along the east walls, and in the lobby area of the Congressional Auditorium. Stone work is essentially complete inside both orientation theaters and continues inside the Exhibition Gallery. Masons have completed setting wall stone on the northeast and northwest walls and the six columns on the east side of the gallery. Overall, masons have improved on their daily average of stone installation from 125 pieces per day in October to an average of 180 per day in November.
- Crews are now installing masonry block units on the basement and Crypt levels within the East Front of the Capitol to prepare the zone for installation of stone and other finish materials.
- Workers will begin installation of mechanical elements for two 25-passenger elevators in the East Front.
- On the Service Level, crews continue to make the electrical, duct and piping connections to the air handling units, fans and other mechanical equipment.
- Inside the House and Senate Expansion Space, crews continue to install mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, place floor topping slabs, and erect metal stud walls and drywall.
- A stone crew will continue installing granite blocks on the south retaining wall leading to the CVC entrance.



- Foundation work continues below the House Carriageway as part of the effort to construct a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to House expansion space.
- Crews will continue to lay granite pavers in various zones on the Senate Plaza and along the sidewalk leading to the Senate Steps as restoration activities continue.

### **East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel**

- First Street continues to be constricted at the intersection with East Capitol Street to allow for utility work in this zone. Excavation near an existing gas line below First Street is complete and Washington Gas is now working in that zone to reconfigure the gas line over the new utility tunnel. This work should be completed in two weeks.
- The utility connections to steam and chilled water lines at Second Street are ongoing and workers there are assembling the formwork for the concrete walls and roof slab around the connection points. Most of the pipe is now in place within the 750-foot-long utility tunnel and welding will continue for several weeks.



Workers review mechanical drawings in the south Orientation Theater. The scaffolding in the background provides a platform for ceiling work.

## **Next Week – 12/12/05 – 12/16/05**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza Work**

- Crews will continue to install ductwork and piping for all heating, cooling, supply, waste water, fire protection, and electrical systems; build mechanical spaces, install cable trays, place concrete, erect blockwork and metal stud walls, and install finish stone in areas on the upper and middle levels of the facility.
- Installation and welding of pipe will continue inside the new utility tunnel along East Capitol Street between First and Second Streets. Related utility tie-in work and concrete placements will continue at First and Second Streets.
- Weather permitting, Washington Gas will complete the reconfiguration of an existing line that lies within the path of the new utility tunnel.
- Crews will continue installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, metal stud walls, drywall, underslab conduit, ductwork and floor topping slabs in the House and Senate Expansion Space.
- Demolition of foundation stone will continue below the House Carriageway as part of the construction of a small underground tunnel that will connect the House wing directly to the Capitol Visitor Center.
- Masons will continue installing of granite pavers to restore the Senate Plaza and the adjacent sidewalk.